



COMMUNITY WORKSHOP SUMMARY

January 28, 2016 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Hiram Morgan Hill Room, Community and Cultural Center

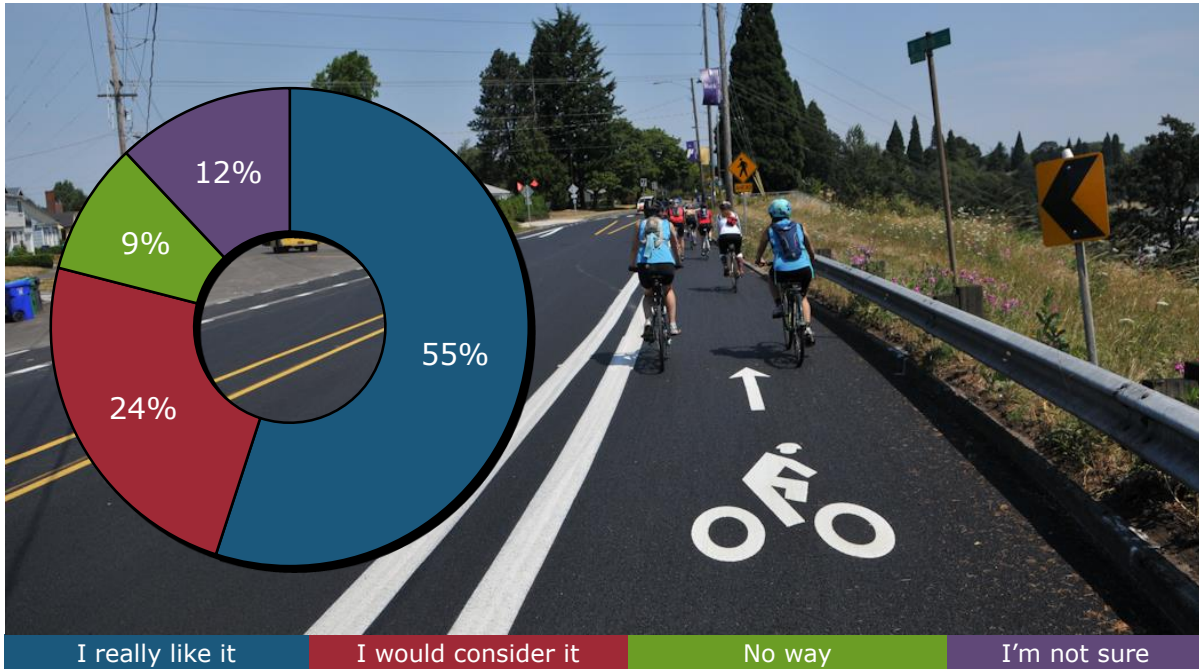
Introduction

Over 30 Morgan Hill community members attended the first community workshop of the Bikeway, Trails, Parks and Recreation Master Plan (Master Plan) process on January 28, 2016. Also in attendance were City staff members including David Gittleson, Chris Ghione, Jennie Tucker, Karl Bjarke and Nick Calubaquib, and two members of the consulting team, Ellie Fiore and Molly Cooney-Mesker.

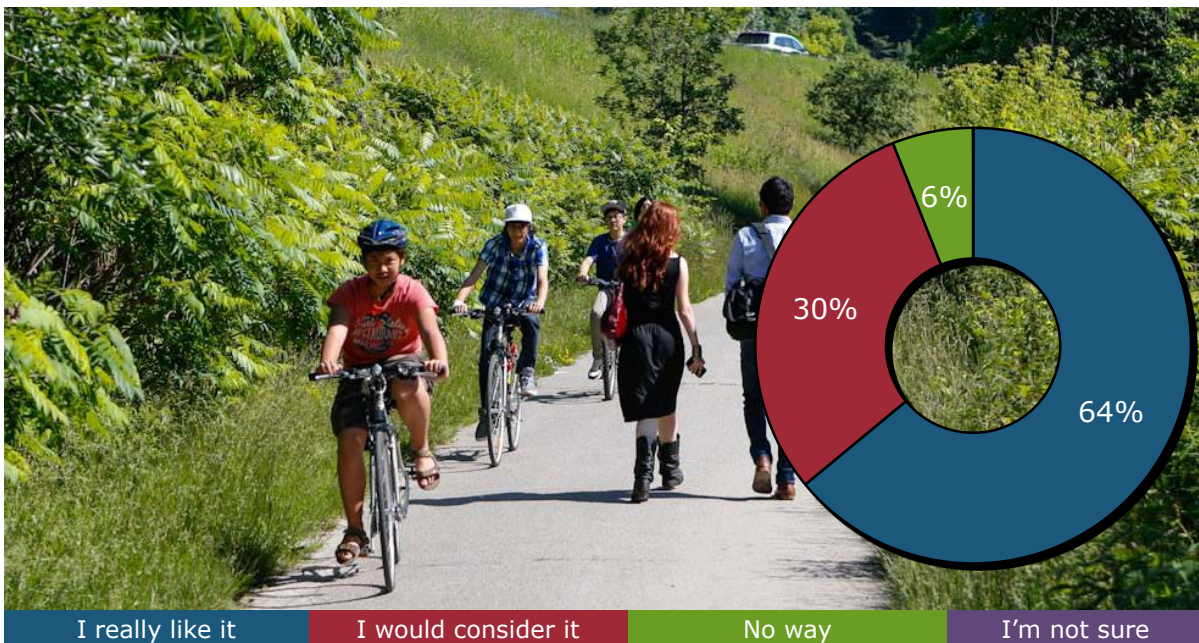
The meeting began with a welcome and introductions by Chris Ghione, City of Morgan Hill. The MIG team then provided an overview of the purpose of the Master Plan, the planning process, and a summary of the data collection, community engagement and technical analysis completed to date.

Large Group Exercise

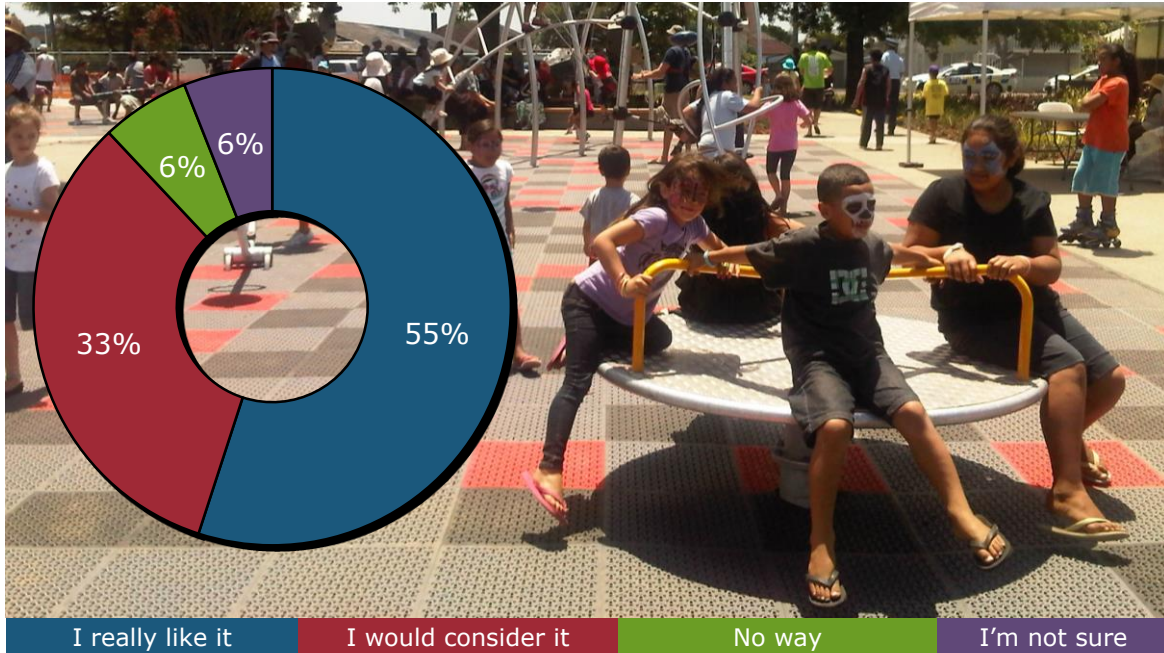
Workshop participants were asked to respond to a series of images illustrating a range of design approaches for bikeways, trails, parks and recreation facilities. The live visual preference survey presented the images in a PowerPoint presentation and asked participants to indicate their preferences using hand-held “clickers.” The results of the survey are displayed instantly and anonymously in the PowerPoint presentation. Participants were instructed to vote based on their preference and how well they thought each approach would work in Morgan Hill. Following are the results of the survey, including each image along with a brief description of the image as it was described to workshop participants.



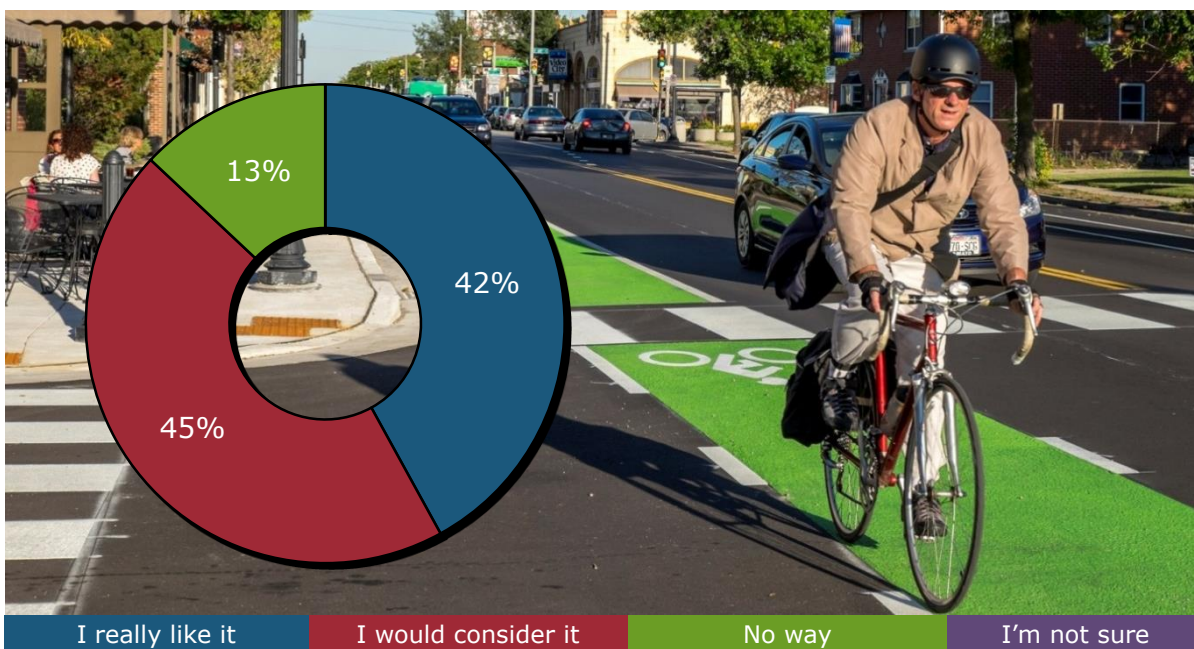
Dedicated bike lane



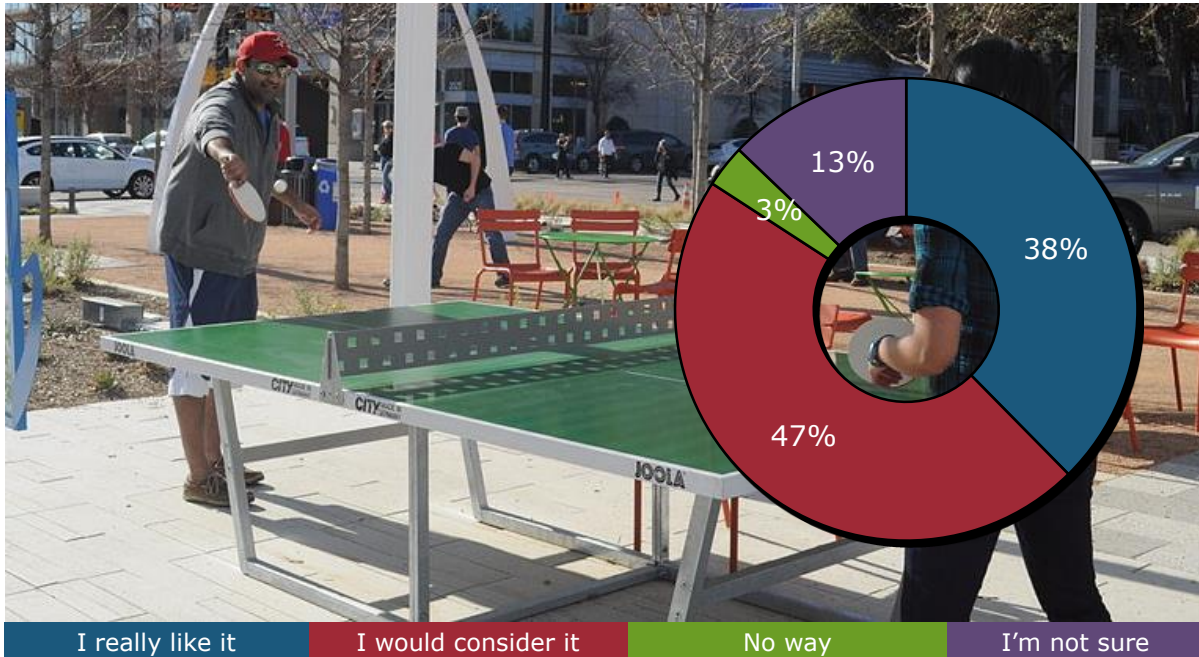
Paved multi-use trail



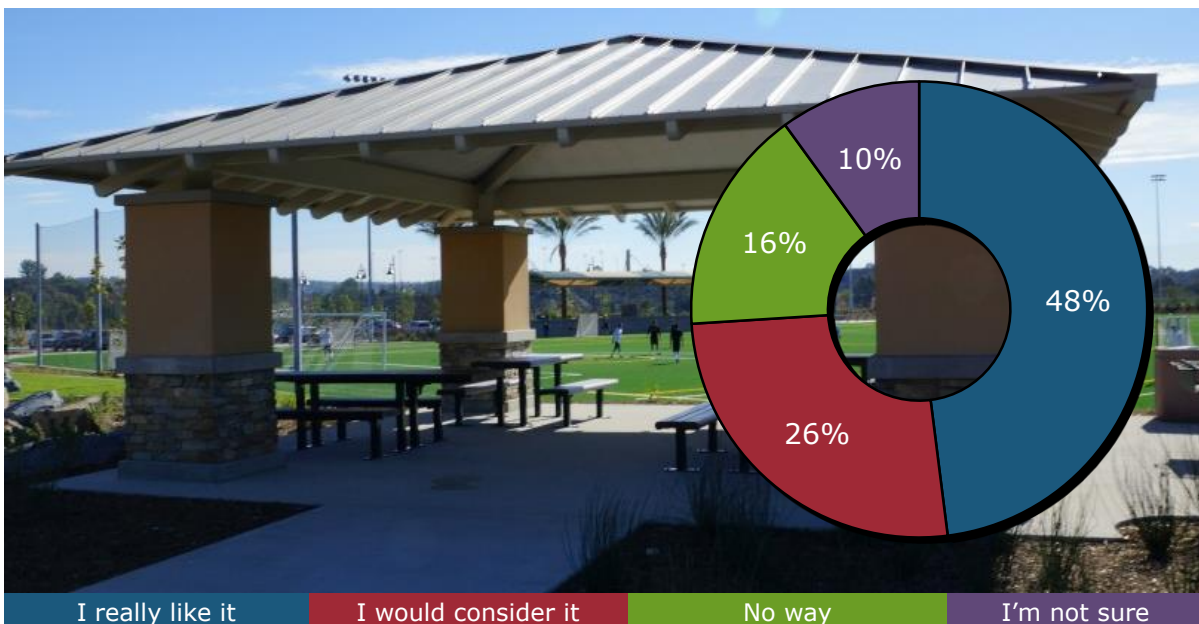
Rubber tile play surface



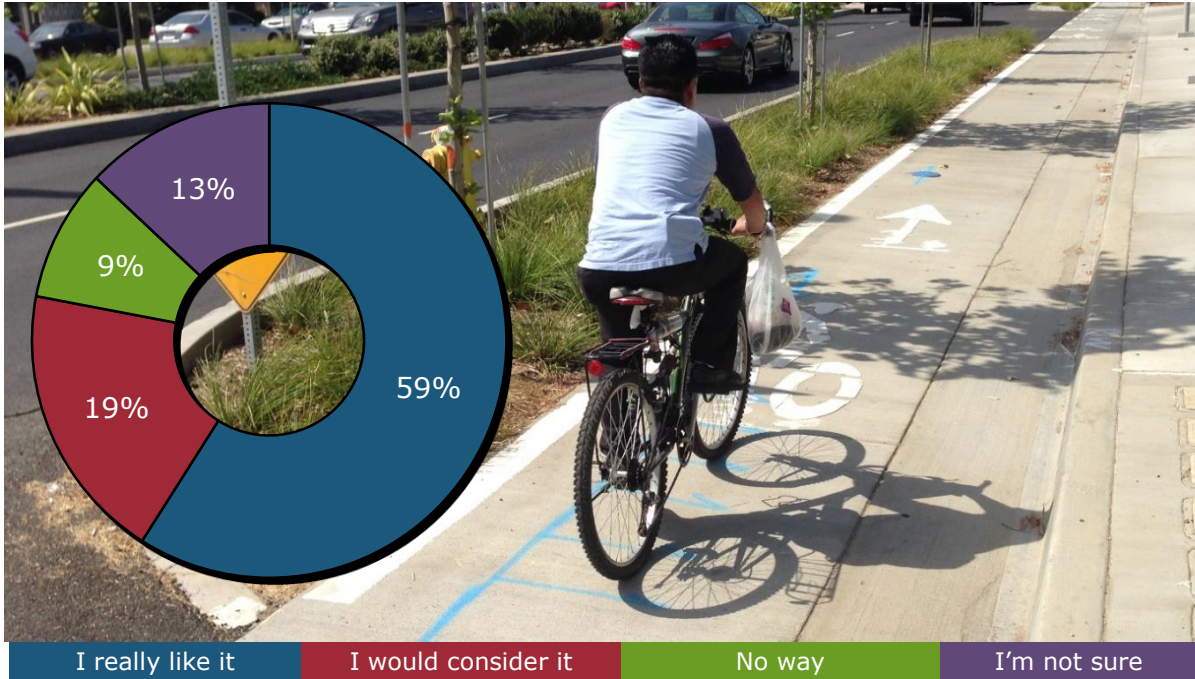
Painted bike lane



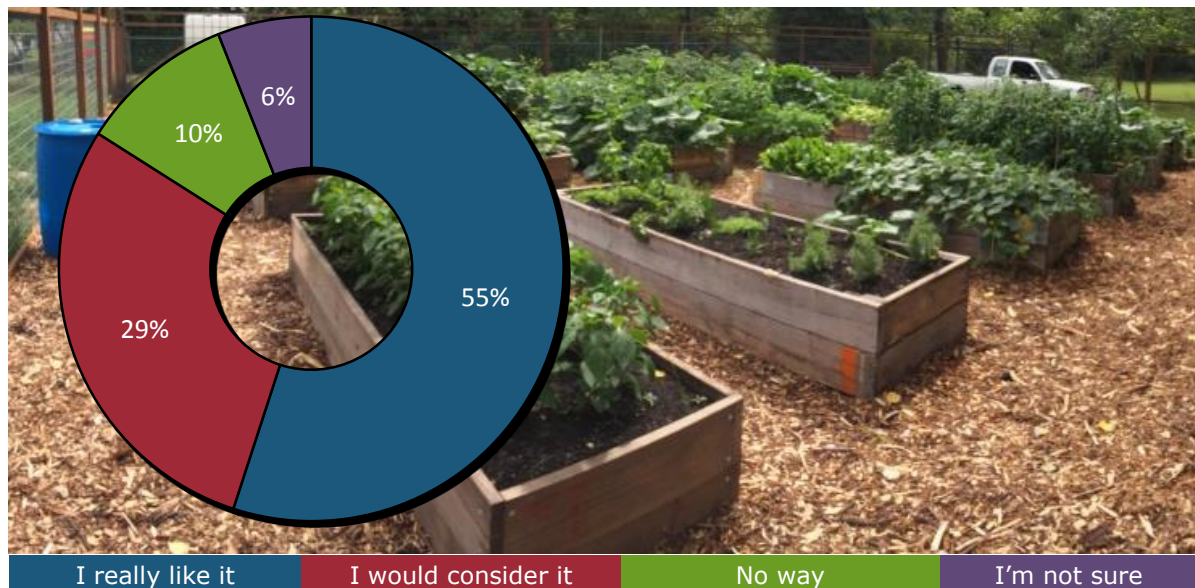
Flexible, non-permanent multi-generational activities



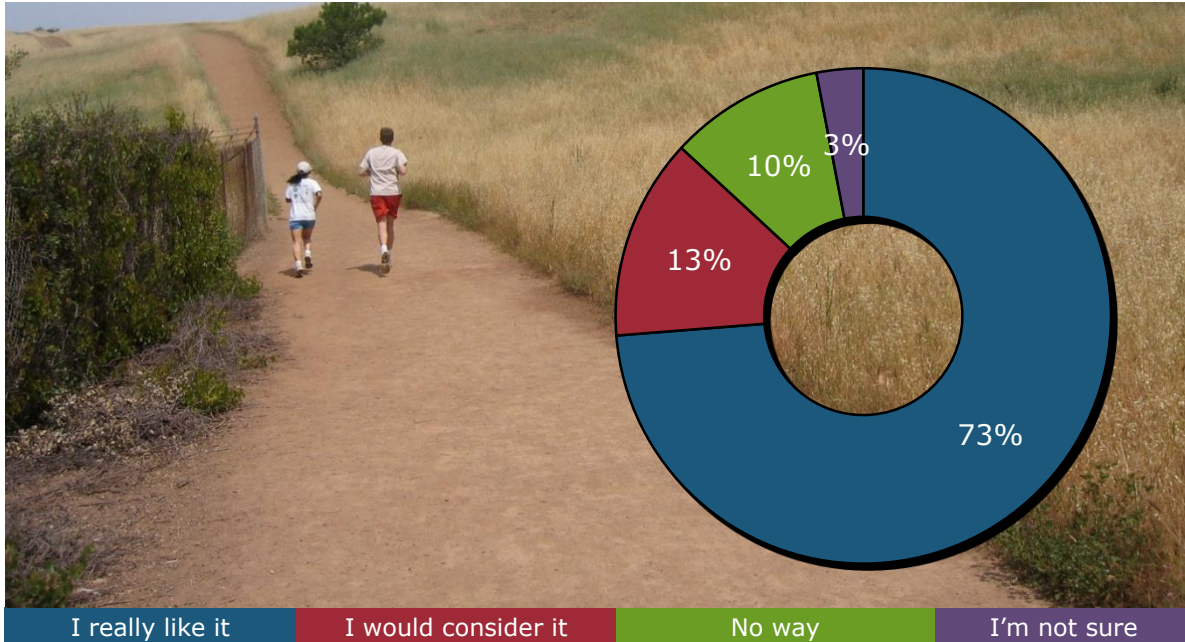
Shade structure with solid roof structure



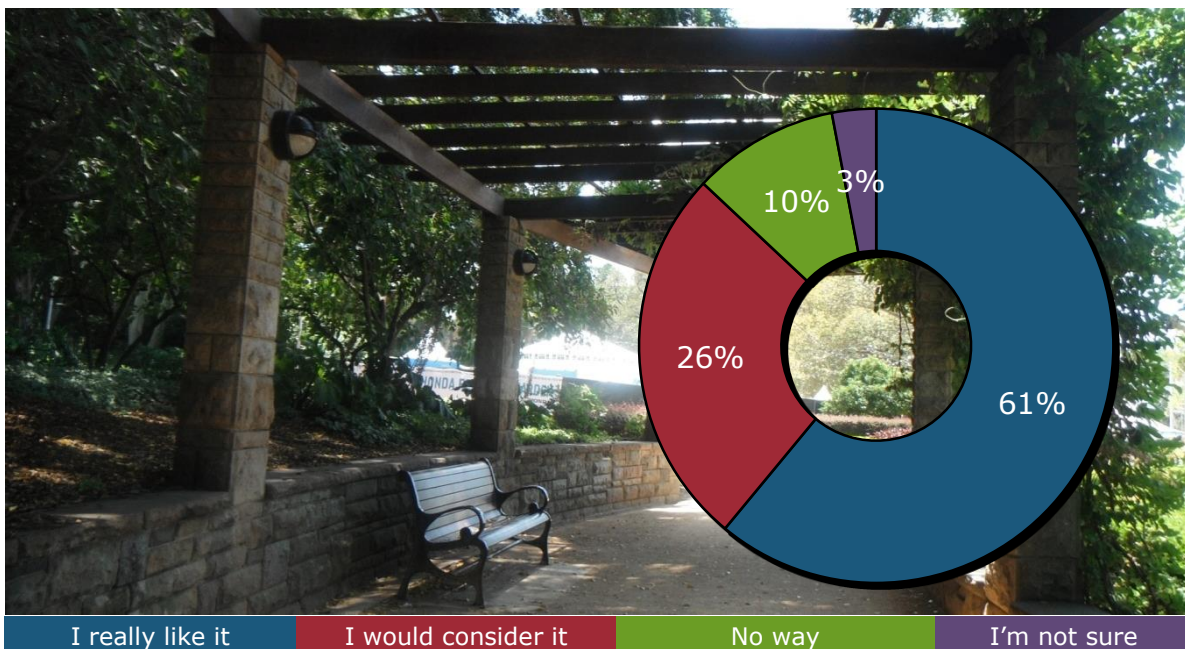
Separated bike lane or cycle track protected by a planted median



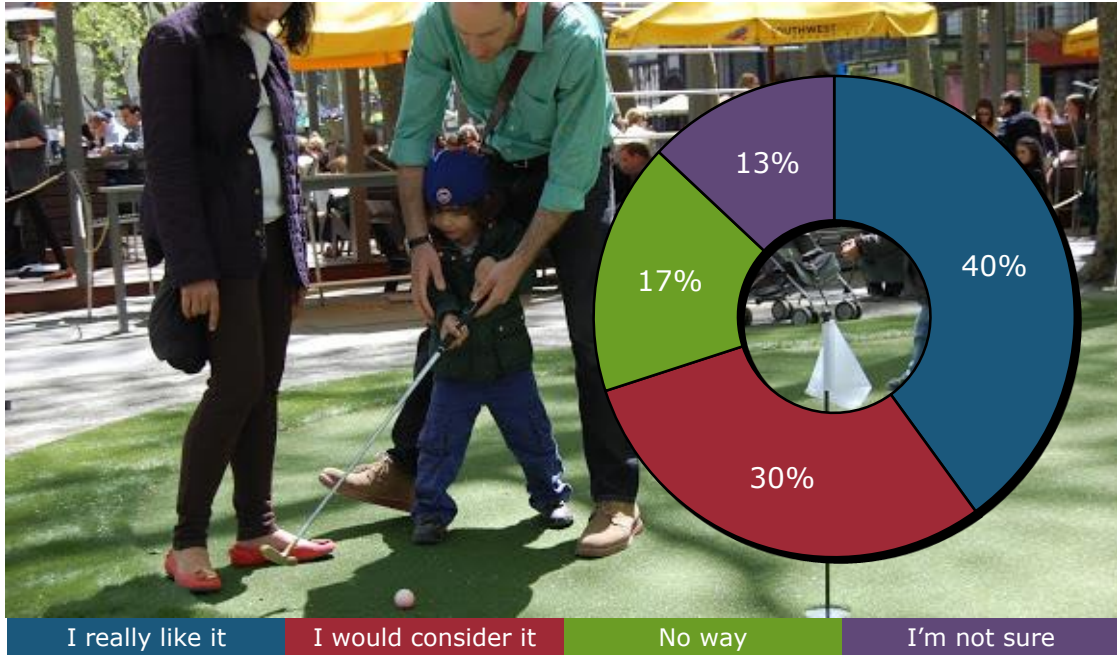
A community garden with structured raised beds and wood chip ground cover



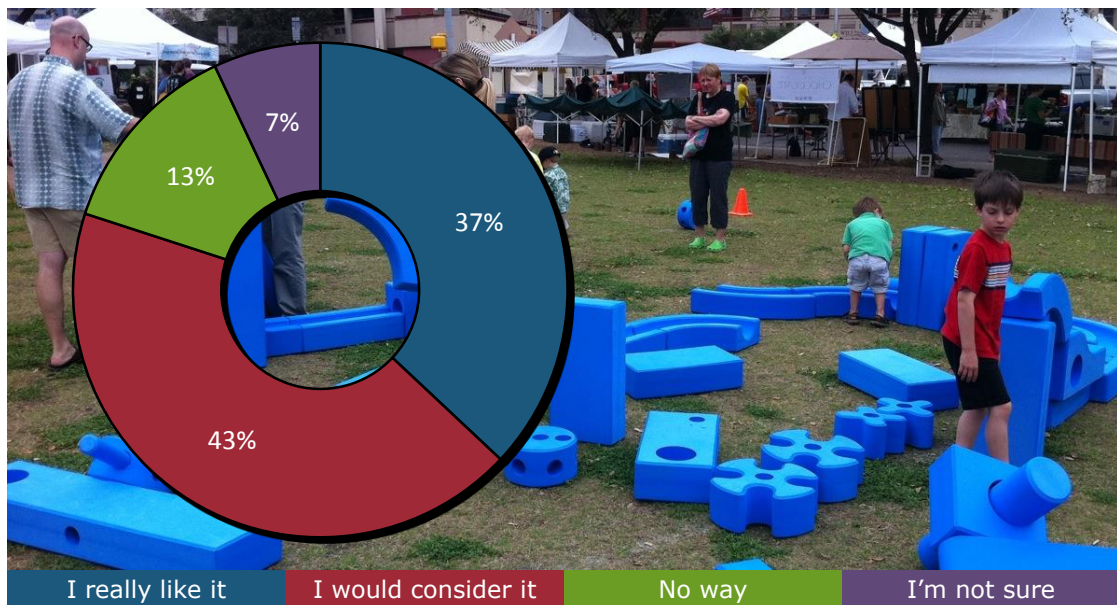
Natural surface trail



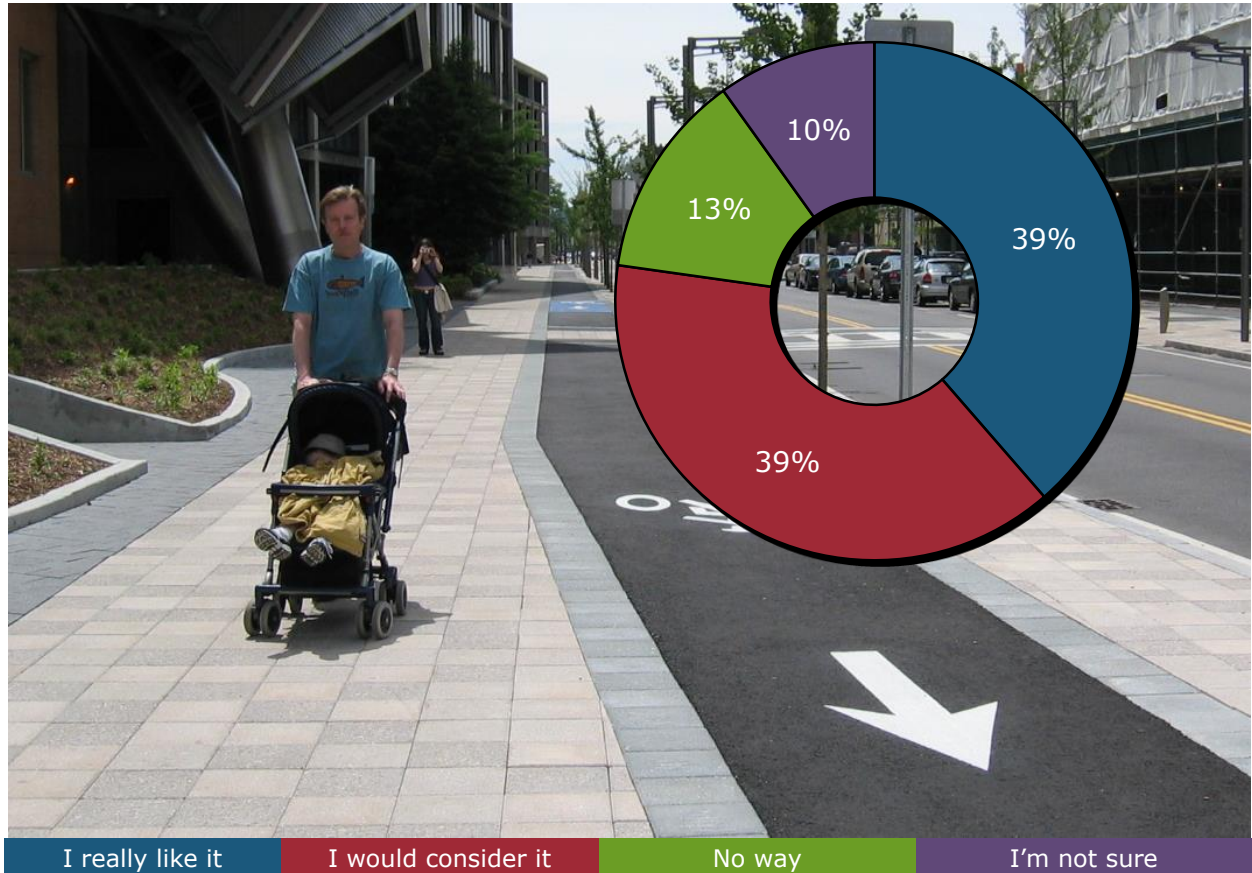
Wood shade structure (trellis) with vegetation



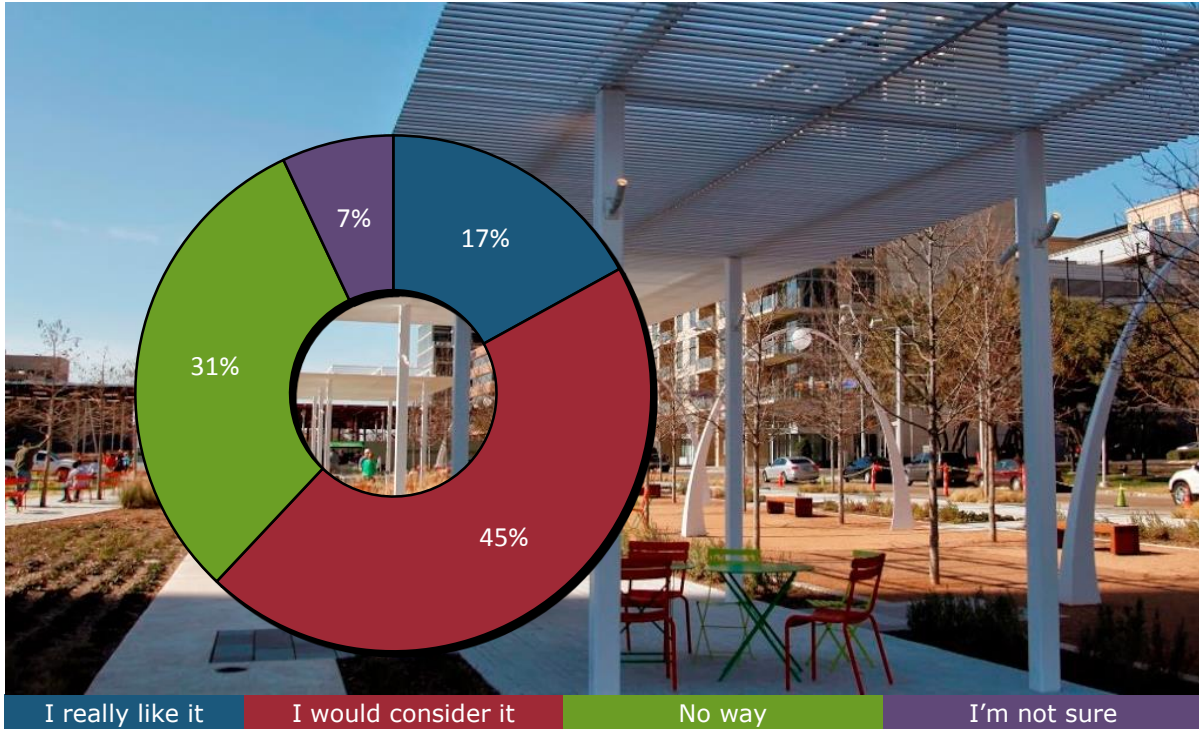
Flexible, non-permanent multi-generational activities



Flexible, non-permanent multi-generational activities



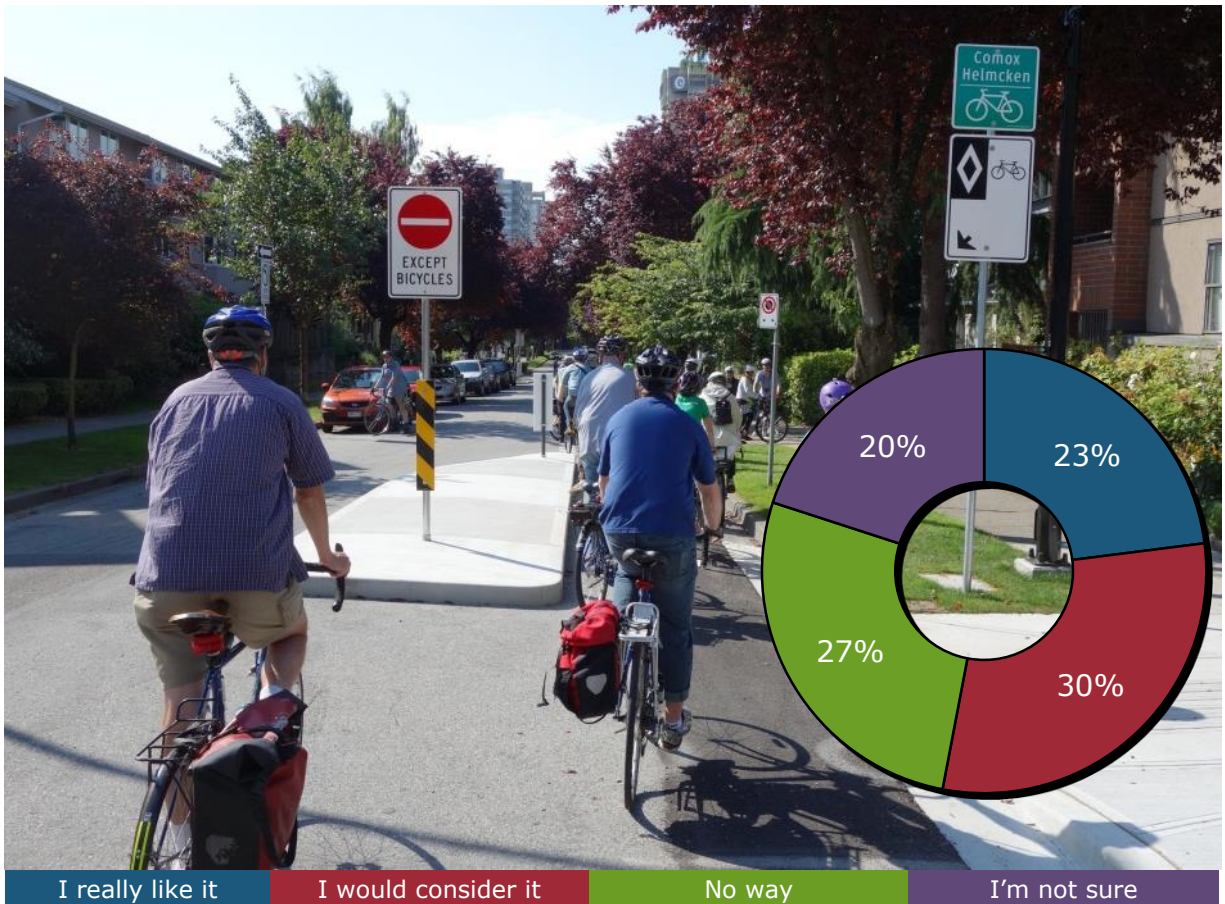
Protected multi-use pedestrian/bicycle facility above street grade with uses separated by surface types



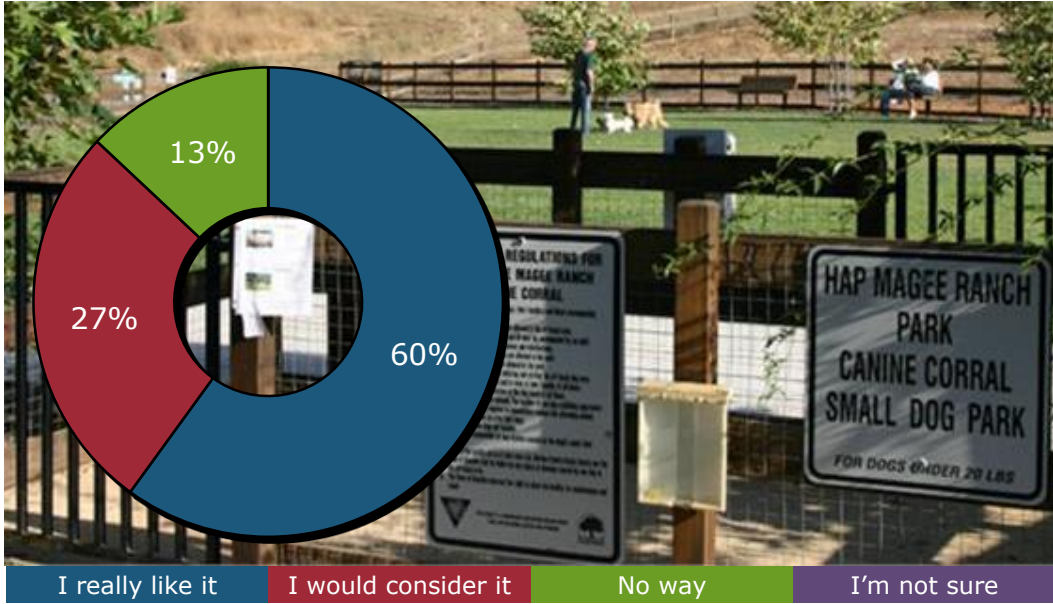
Modern style slatted shade structure



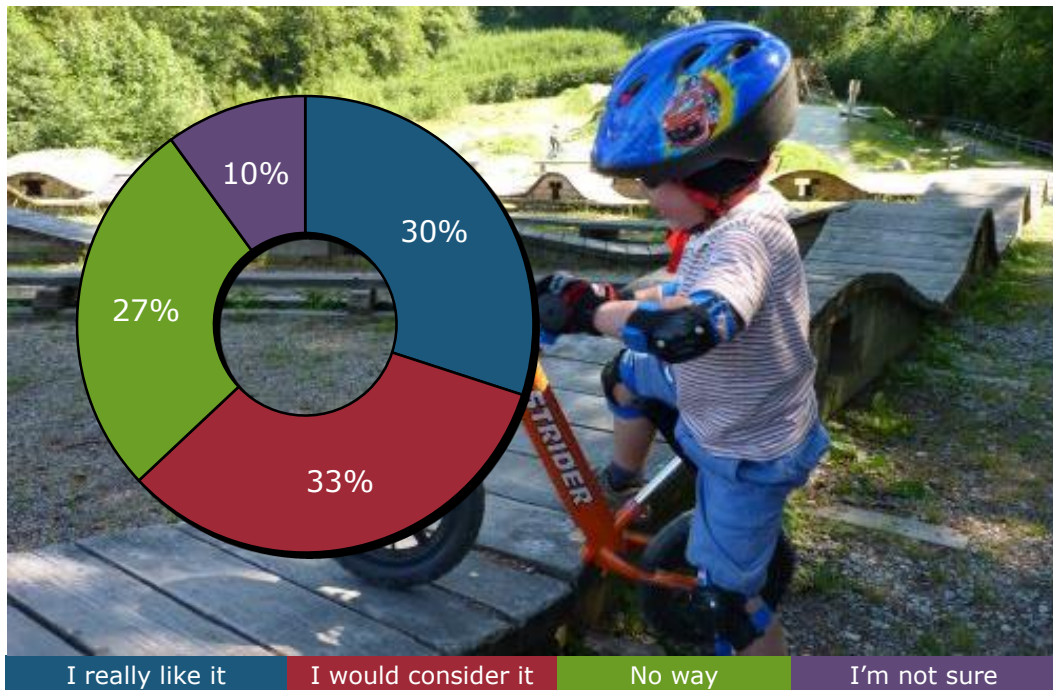
Small bike pump track



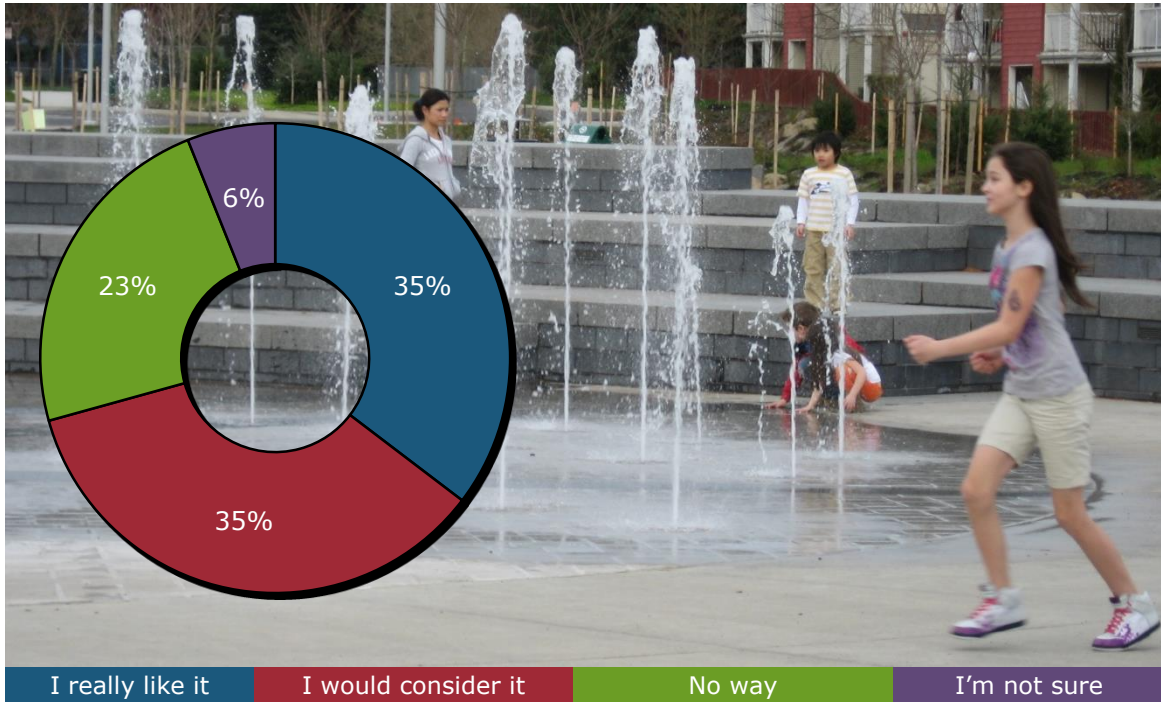
Bicycle boulevards: streets designed to prioritize bicycling and enhance conditions for walking (Seen here is a street closed one-way for automobile traffic)



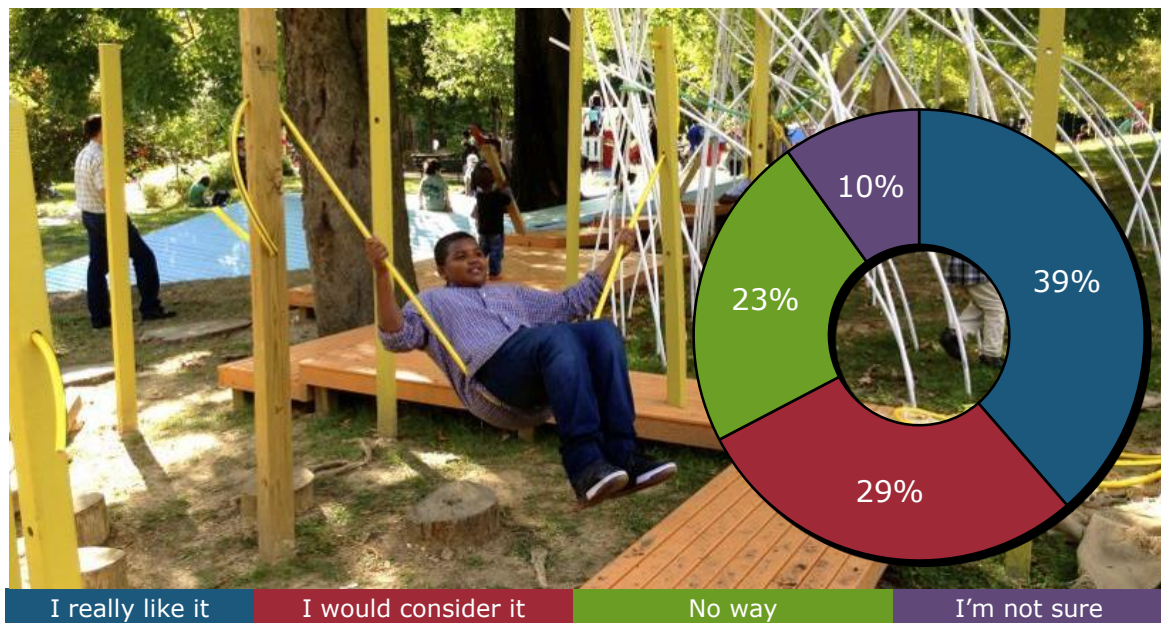
Enclosed, small dog park



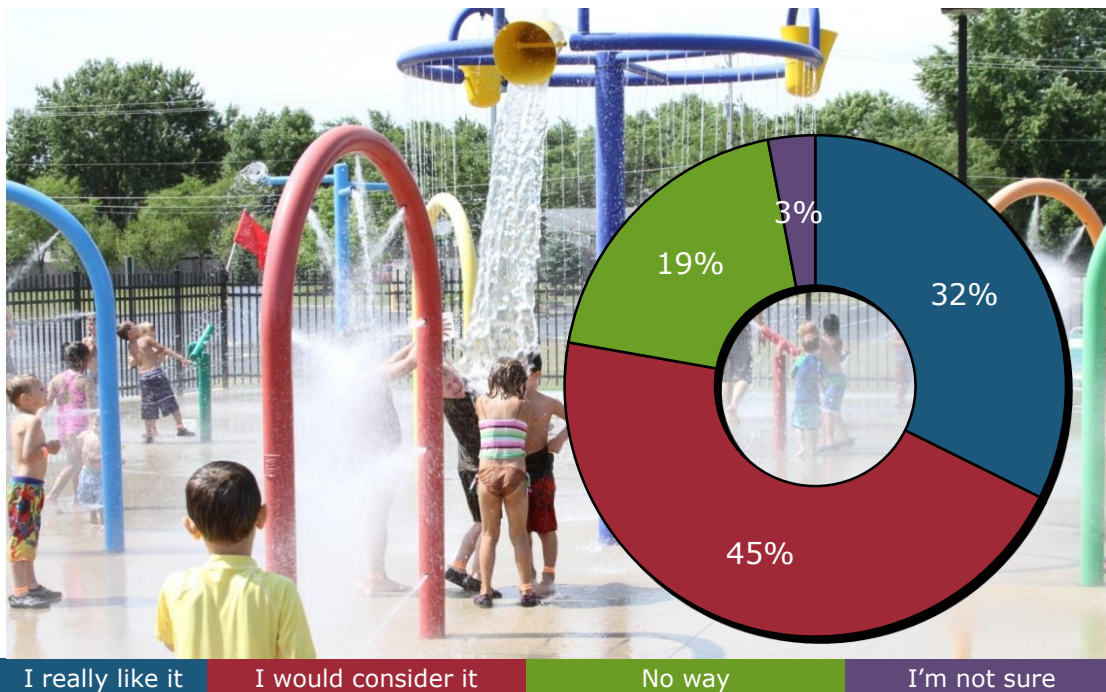
Bike skills park: varied activities appropriate for various ages and skill levels



Water play (spray park)- Ground spray that also serves as a public space/plaza



Adventure playground



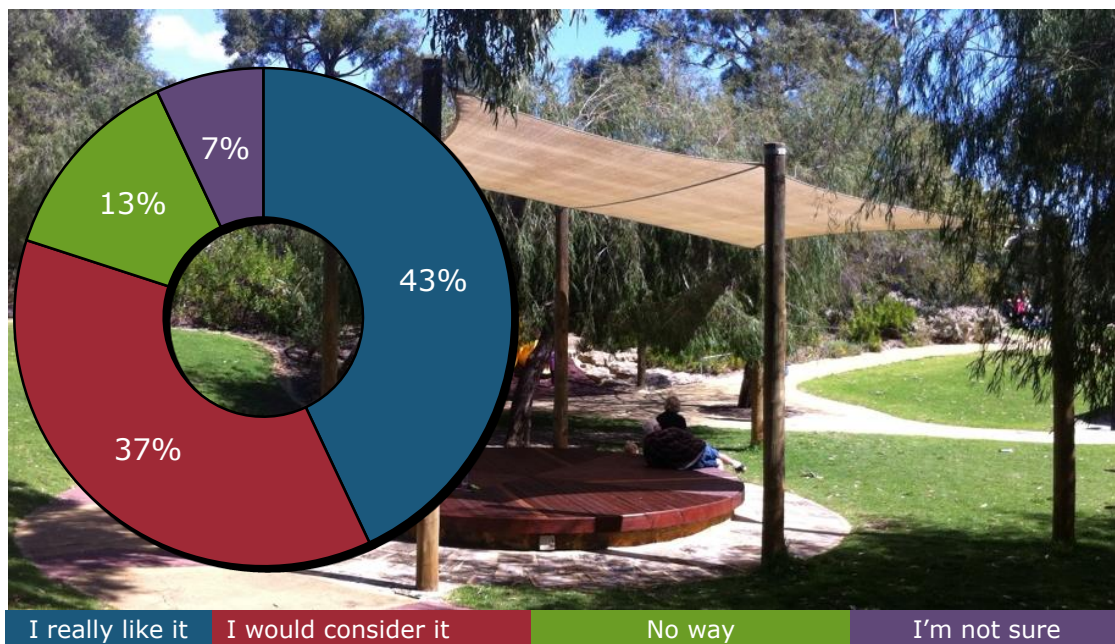
Splash pad enclosed in a playground



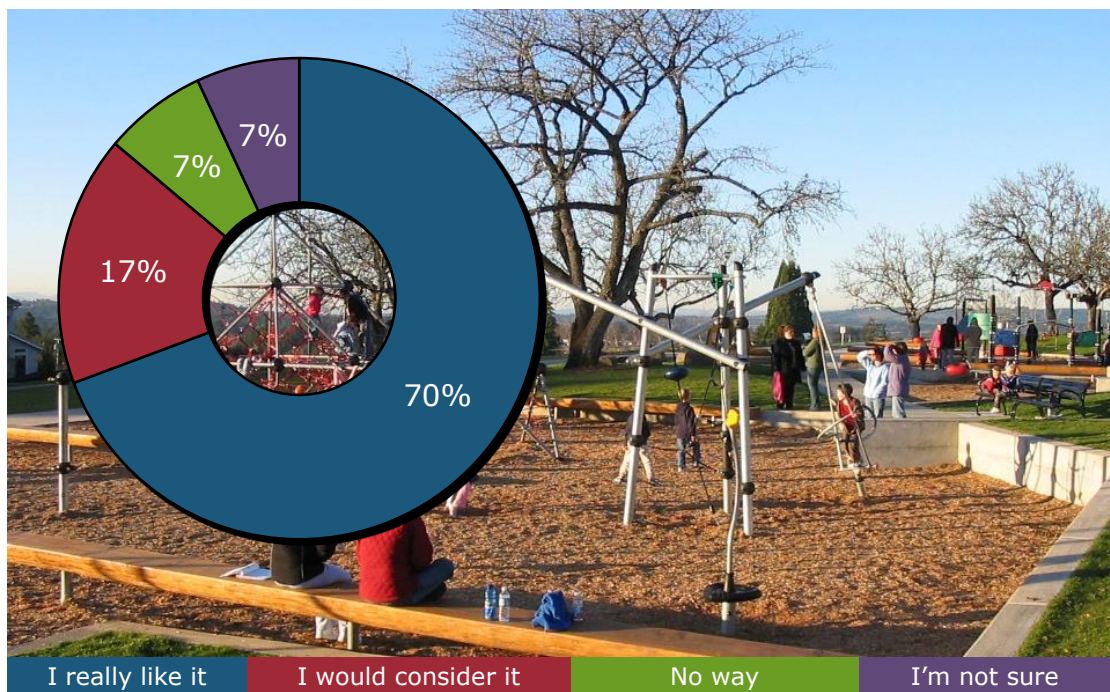
Recreation programming in parks



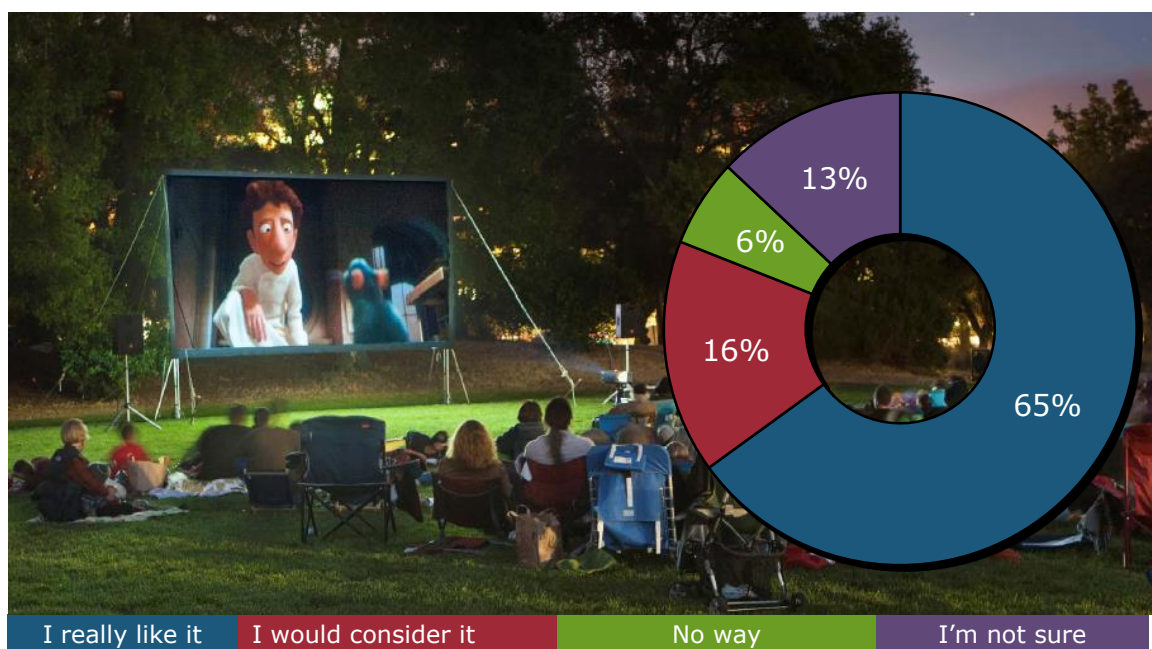
Nature play



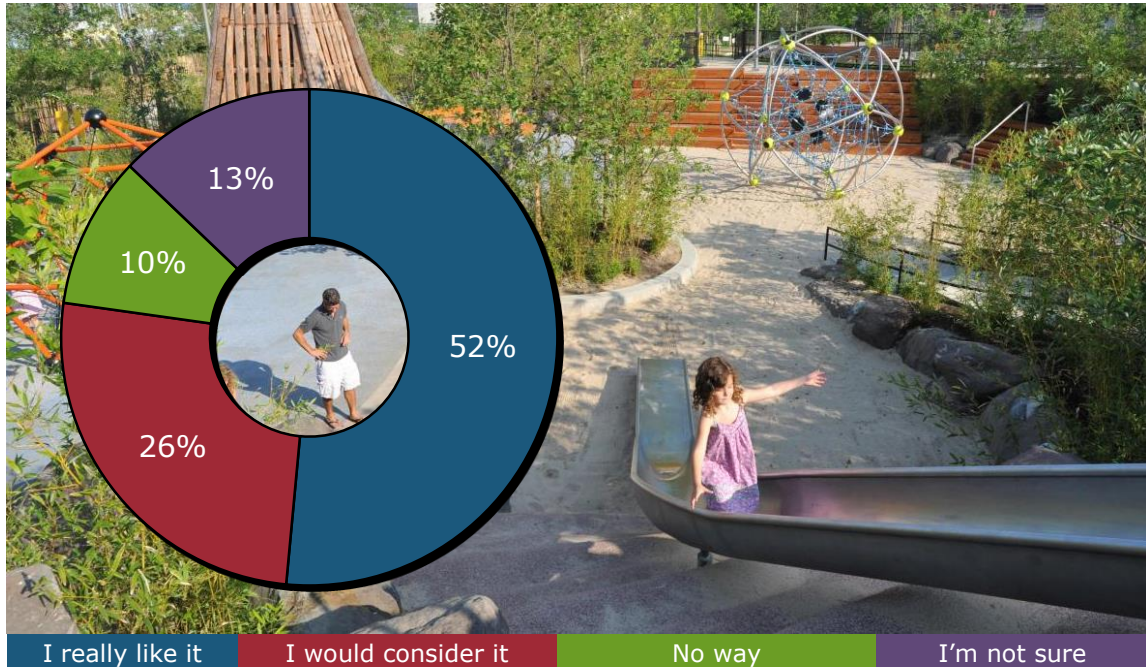
Shade structure with soft and more natural looking materials



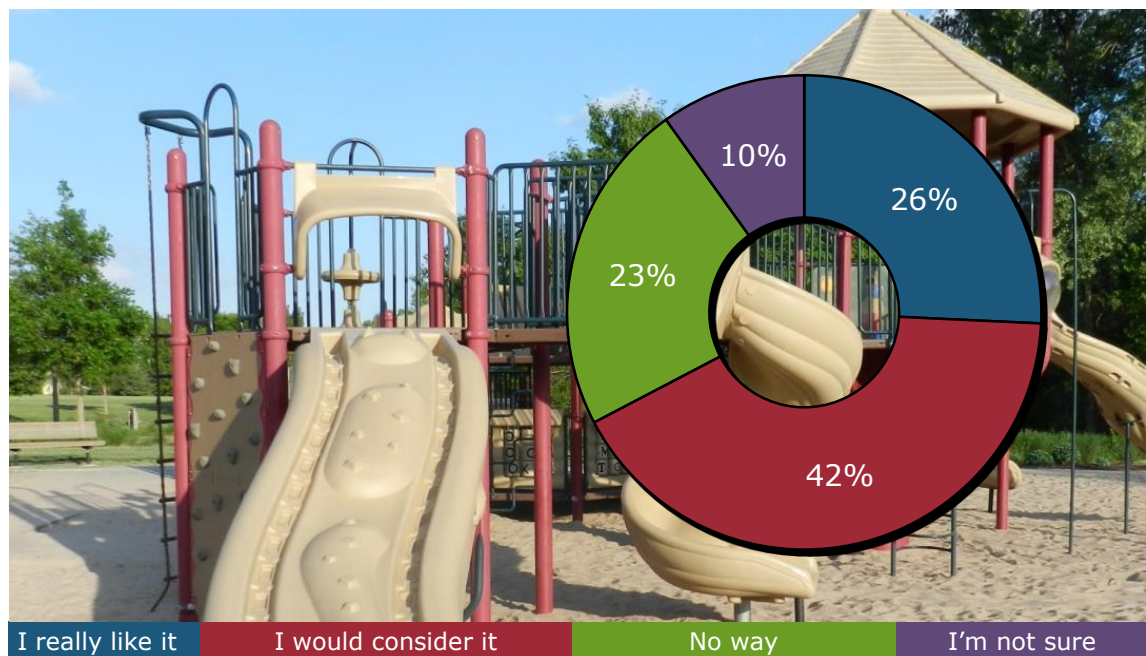
Play environments for a range of ages, adjacent from one another



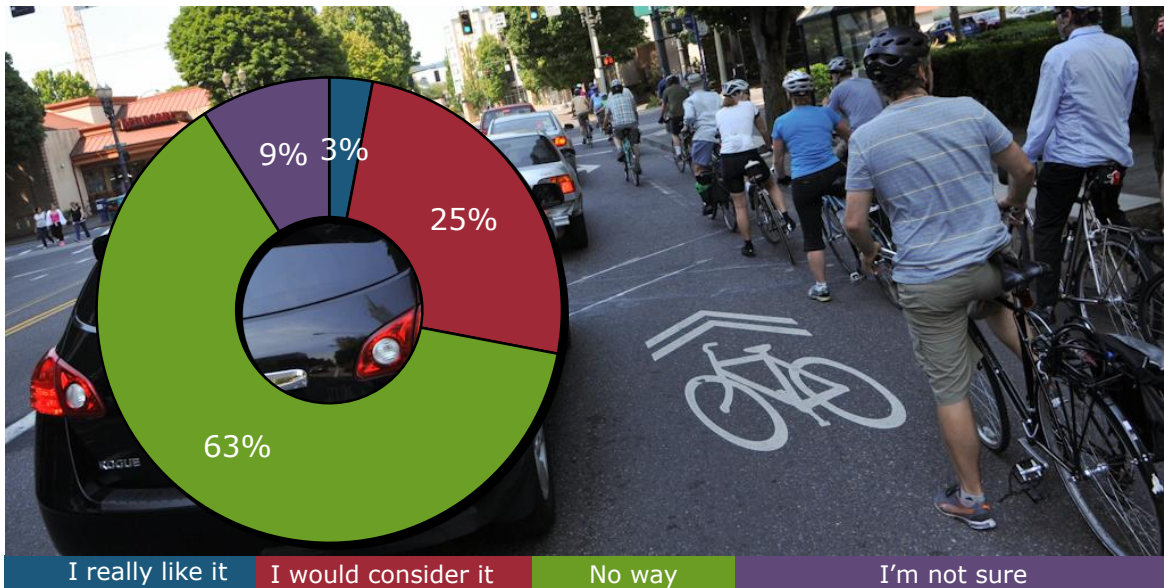
Open space programming for film screenings and other informal events



Small space with vegetation incorporated into the play environment



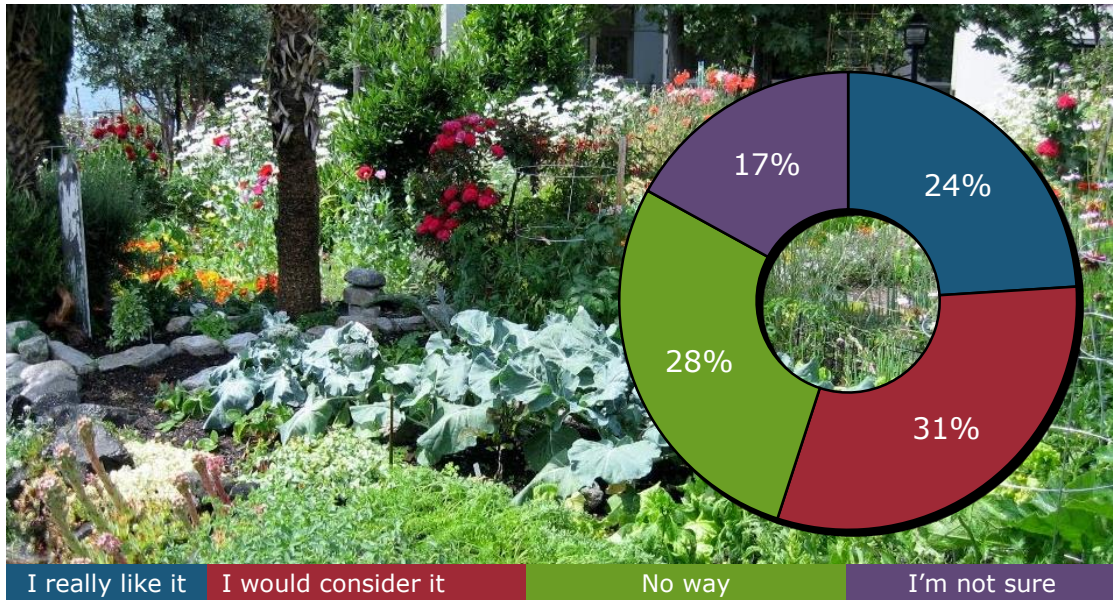
Traditional play structure with non-metal slides



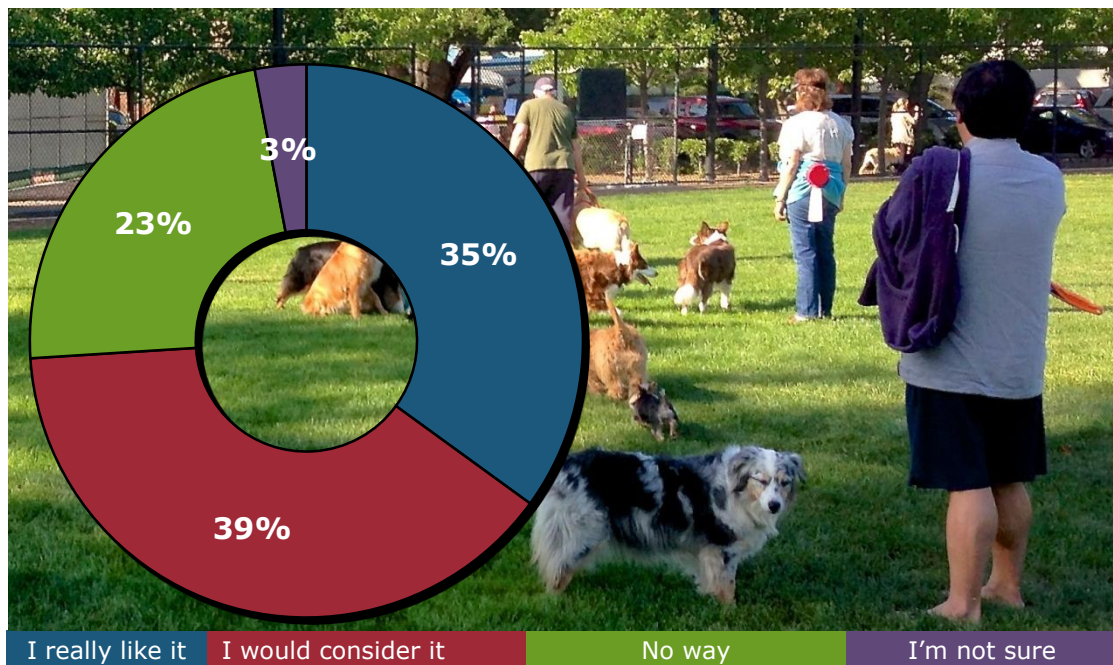
Shared bike facility (sharrows): Lanes not separated for bike traffic but shared with auto traffic



Climbing wall added to retaining wall along walking path



Community garden without structured planters



Fenced dog park with large grass field

Small Group Exercise: Priorities for the Future

Project team members facilitated small group discussions focused on community priorities for the future bikeways, trails, parks and recreation system in Morgan Hill. The discussion was guided by questions about what elements of the system participants would like to see improved or built upon and what new elements they would like to see added. Key themes that emerged from the discussion include the following:

BIKEWAYS AND TRAILS

Elements to be improved and built upon

- **Connectivity:** better connect existing facilities and destinations
 - Connect and improve sidewalk conditions especially to and around Nordstrom Elementary School and Live Oak High School
 - Improved connections are needed:
 - To Downtown
 - To County open spaces
 - Between City parks
 - To Gilroy
 - Between neighborhoods (coordinate bikeways in developments with bikeways along City and County roads)
 - East-to-west across 101
- **Safety:** Streets, trails, paths, and bikeways should allow for safe travel by people of all ages and abilities and accommodate multiple modes of travel.
 - Add and improve lighting on paths and bike routes
 - Delineate between bicycle and pedestrian uses to reduce conflicts on multi-use paths
 - Reduce bicycle speeds on multi-use paths

PARKS

Elements to be improved and built upon

- **Gathering opportunities:** increase the number and location of events at parks, such as movies and concerts

- **Variety of activities:** diversify the types of equipment and experiences offered in parks
 - Activities for older youth and teens
 - Multi-generational play
 - Adventure play
- **Expand amenities:** enhance park experiences by expanding amenities
 - Bathrooms
 - Water fountains
 - Shelters for sun and rain protection
 - Signage
 - More scattered seating and shaded seating
- **Accessibility:** increase the accessibility of parks for all community members
 - Raise awareness about which and when school amenities are accessible to the public
 - Create more universally accessible parks and areas in parks

NEW ELEMENTS TO BE ADDED

- **New Amenities:**
 - Dog parks along trails
 - Public art
- **Diversified programming:** offering different programs and services in parks may help attract new users to parks
 - Areas of parks that are staffed where kids can have free play that is supervised – this could be especially effective in Downtown parks; there's a desire for more Downtown pop-up parks
 - Programming that runs later into the evening for teens
 - Nature and history education
 - Morgan Hill House
 - Geocaching or other approaches to integrating technology in parks to engage youth
 - Recreation programming in parks

Next Steps

Upcoming opportunities for community input include an online survey, which will be on the City's website and promoted through social media, email and the Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG). The SAG will continue to meet regularly, with its third meeting on February 11.